GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3373
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2002
RADIATION EXPOSURE ON RISE
CHINTAMAN NAVSHA WANAGA

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned `Radiation exposure on the rise` appearing in the Times of India dated November 08, 2002;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter therein;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure exposure to radiation does not exceed the prescribed limits?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINIS PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND M OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b)&(c) The news item is based on the Annual Report of the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) for the year 2001-2002After reviewing the radiation doses to workers in the nuclear power plants, the report stated that there is near total compliance with the dose limits prescribed by AERB.

(d) Though the radiation exposures to workers are within the limits prescribed by AERB, the accepted policy of AERB is that the radiation doses to workers should be As Low As Reasonably Achievable. This is called the ALARA principle.

Committee to control radiation exposures to values As Low As Reasonably Achievable (ALARA) are set up at each station to monitor radiation doses to workers.